



LESOTHO

Government of Lesotho

Ministry of Communications Science and Technology

**INVITATION TO TENDER NO :MCST/LGDN/01/2009
SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, CONFIGURATION AND COMMISSIONING OF
NETWORK SECURITY DEVICES**

26th January 2009

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this tender is to procure Network Security Devices to be deployed at the Government Data Centres in Moposo House and Finance House. The devices should be configured to complement the security of the already installed network and bidders will be required to provide professional advice on how best to deploy the devices as well as assisting in developing best practice procedures on operating them.

The prospective bidder must demonstrate the following qualities:

- Technical competence to carry out the proposed solution and experience of similar work
- Must have engineers with relevant industry qualifications as part of project team
- Capacity to provide sustained local support

2. Instructions To Bidders

2.1. Confidentiality

Due to the nature of this assignment, the Ministry of Communications Science and Technology (MCST) shall require that documents, maps, diagrams, reports, findings, and any other information acquired by the company from any source during the course of undertaking of the assignment be kept strictly confidential, and that such information shall not be shared with third parties without the express permission of MCST.

2.2. ITT Process

2.2.1. Tender Issuance and Submission

The issue date for this tender is 26th January 2009, and the closing date is 20th February, 2009. Original and six (6) copies of the tender responses are to be delivered to the Ministry Tender Committee Secretary, Reception, MCST, not later than 12:00, 20th February 2009. The envelope should be sealed and clearly marked “Tender No MCST/LGDN/01/2009, Supply, installation and Commissioning of Network Security Devices”. The envelope must not bear any identifying markings. Tenders that bear identifying markings will be disqualified.

2.2.2. Clarifications

All clarifications and queries on this tender must be addressed to:

Joel Mothowakgosi

Ministry of Finance

Tel: +266 6320 6547

Email: jmothowakgosi@finance.gov.ls

Lebeko Sello

Ministry of Communications

Tel: +266 6390 6390

lebeko.sello@mcst.gov.ls

All requests for clarifications should be received no later than 13th February 2009 upon which responses will be provided by 17th February. All requests for clarifications must be in writing.

2.2.3. Timetable

The tender process will be guided by the following indicative dates:

Activity	Dates
<i>ITT Issued</i>	<i>26th January, 2009</i>
<i>Mandatory Site Visit</i>	<i>11th February, 2009</i>
<i>Deadline for Clarifications</i>	<i>13th February, 2009</i>
<i>Deadline for Responses to Clarifications</i>	<i>17th February, 2009</i>
<i>ITT Close</i>	<i>20th February, 2009</i>
<i>Selection Notification of Preferred Bidder</i>	<i>24th February, 2009</i>
<i>Contract Negotiations Completed</i>	<i>27th February, 2009</i>
<i>Contract Sign</i>	<i>27th February, 2009</i>

2.3. ITT Process

A Tender Evaluation Committee will be constituted by the Ministry Tender Committee. The evaluation will be based on:

- Compliance to Tender Conditions
- Technical Solution (80%)
- Price (20%)

2.3.1. Compliance to Tender Conditions

Bidders who do not comply with the following conditions will be disqualified:

- Correct Number of Tender Responses
- Valid Business Registration Certificate
- Valid Trading License
- Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
- Valid Site Visits Certificate (This will be issued by MCST, sample format has been included at Appendix F)

2.3.2. Evaluation of the Technical Solution

The technical solution will be evaluated using the following criteria and weighting:

Criteria	Score	Weighting	Weighted Score
Company Profile	0-10	1	10
Technical Compliance	0-10	4	40
Approach to Project Delivery	0-10	1	10
Client References & Project Team	0-10	2	20
Support & Maintenance	0-10	2	20
TOTAL			100

2.3.3. Financial Evaluation

The cost evaluation will be carried out by applying the following formula:

- The Bidder with lowest complete price (L), will be awarded 100%
- And Bidders with price P, will be awarded a financial score = $(L/P) * 100\%$

2.3.4. Tender Award

This Tender will be awarded by the MCST Tender Committee. The award will be based on the highest ranked bidder after combining the technical and financial evaluations. Bidders must, however, note that awarding of this tender will be subject to an agreed contract. Suppliers might bid for any part of the tender or all parts and MCST reserves the right to award the tender in parts to different suppliers or the whole tender to a single supplier.

The award will not necessarily be made to the response with the lowest price.

3. Required Format of Tender

3.1. Scope of Tender

3.1.1. Statement of Commitment

Bidders are required to provide a signed commitment to the following conditions. This may be in the form of a blanket agreement. If the Applicant wishes to vary the response to individual sections, then the Statement of Commitment should be extended.

Pricing Conditions

All prices are required to be submitted in Maluti.

Prices shall remain valid for 3 (three) months.

Site Visit/Briefing

There is a mandatory site visit for the bidders to inspect the user's premises in consultation with the Ministry for the following reasons:

- Understand the current networking environment
- Understand and get clarity on any tender related issue
- Study of user environment

The site visit is scheduled for Wednesday February 11th 2009 at 9:00 hrs at MCST 3rd Floor, Moposo House.

Documentation

The standard of documentation shall be such that all elements can be maintained to the required availability figures, operated and controlled effectively and efficiently and expanded to the required levels by the users/staff without any assistance from the supplier.

4. Proposed Solution

4.1. Current Situation

The Ministry of Communications Science and Technology, through the department of ICT, has the responsibility to run government data centres and provide data hosting services and Internet/e-mail access for various government ministries. The Ministry has two (2) data centres situated at Moposo House and Finance House.

The Ministry has two (2) high-speed Internet connections going into the data centres from different local ISP where access to other Ministries and Government institutions are then served. The various institutions of government are connected to the data centres by fibre optic link or by wireless links, providing a minimum connection speed of 4mbps from any one point to another.

The current network configuration consists of basic switching and routing facilities that ensures traffic delivery to various destinations. There is also firewalling facilities to ensures basic network security and packet integrity. These facilities are primarily concerned with ensuring the integrity of the Wide Area Network and that users can securely access resources in the data centres.

There is a need therefore to secure the Internet connections as well as to have mechanisms in place by which the Ministry can control and monitor access to the internet. There also needs to be a clear definition and control of exchange of data between the Government WAN and the Internet to ensure that internal systems are not compromised by external threats as well as to ensure that the infrastructure deployed is not abused.

4.2. Terms of Reference

The Government of Lesotho has made significant investments in ICT infrastructure to facilitate communications between various government institutions. The purpose of this invitation to tender is to procure goods and services as follows:

Part I – Network Security Devices and Services

The following table summarises the network devices required and the associated quantities. Please note that suppliers can suggest alternate equipment but it must provide equivalent or better functionality.

Item Number	Description/specification	Quantity
1	IronPort C660 e-mail spam firewall	2
2	IronPort S660 web security firewall	2
3	Checkpoint Enterprise Firewall	2
4	Citrix Access Gateway Enterprise	2
5	Cisco 2960-G 24 Port switches	
6	Implementation Services for all above items	1

Part II – E-Mail Facilities and Services

The Government of Lesotho has made significant investments on Microsoft Server platform as well as in desktop applications and training. The MCST is looking to procure and implement a messaging and collaboration platform that will leverage the investment already made. The system procured must integrate fully with the existing platform in the data centres as well as the desktop applications already deployed without having to retrain all users.

Therefore suppliers are requested to bid for an implementation of Microsoft Exchange e-mail and collaboration solution that will serve an initial 1500 users and grow to 3000 in the first 12 months. It is the responsibility of the bidders to quote on all materials (hardware and software) required to implement such a system. The servers will be housed at the data centre in Moposo House in Maseru and users will be connecting to the system from all Ministries through the Government of Lesotho Data Network (LGDN).

Bidders should note that the Government of Lesotho has already made a significant investment on IBM hardware technology and thus request that the hardware proposed should be of the same brand to allow for easier management and maintenance. The supplier should assume 500 concurrent users in responding to this bid; however the solution should cater for growth to the numbers mentioned above and attaining a high number of concurrent users should be achieved by simply adding more licenses, without any solution redesign or hardware upgrades

In addition to the implementation of the Microsoft Exchange system, suppliers should quote for the implementation of an enterprise Active Directory Services that will be used in the data centres for all servers and services. The suppliers should do hardware sizing to cater for a total of 6000 users between two (2) data centres; the data centres are already connected by high capacity fibre optic cabling.

Part III – Infrastructure Management Servers and Services

To manage the infrastructure already procured and to allow for systems performance monitoring the following management tools and services are required. Suppliers should again take note of the investment already made in Microsoft Software platforms and propose solutions that will assist in managing such without having to heavily modify the existing environment.

It is a requirement of this tender that suppliers bid for the implementation of Microsoft Systems Centre Server Management Suite Enterprise Edition and implementation of all components to manage 150 servers in two (2) data centres in Maseru; the data centre are already linked by high capacity fibre optic cable. Suppliers should quote for all materials required (hardware and software) to achieve the intended management platform.

Suppliers are also requested to quote for the supply and implementation of an enterprise DNS service that will resolve names for the gov.ls namespace. For this requirement suppliers are at liberty to propose platforms that can deliver the service with minimum disruptions, as all government systems will depend on this service for name resolution and the external users will

use it to locate resources on the Government network. Suppliers should quote for all materials (hardware and software) required to deliver a robust DNS services.

It should be noted that there is a network monitoring facility situated next to the primary data centre and suppliers are requested to ensure that their proposal will deliver systems that can be monitored from this facility rather than from the data centre itself.

4.3. Format of Response

Responses must adhere to the following format:

- Format of Response (Refer Appendix A)
- Management Summary
- Signed Statement of Commitment (Refer Appendix B)
- Company Profile
- Technical Solution
- Approach to Project Delivery & Plan
- Proposed Project Team
- Client References
- Project Costs (Refer Appendix C)
- Any other additional information e.g. Brochures

Appendix A: Form of Response

Company Name	
Company Registration Number	
Country of Registration	
Physical Address	
Postal Address	
Telephone Number	
Mobile Number	
Fax Number	
Email & URL	
Project Title	
Tender No.	
Proposed Price (in Maluti)	
Designated Authorised Representative for this Project	Name: Position: Qualifications: Tel: Fax: Email:
Bidder's Referees	1. 2. 3.
Signed: Company's Authorised Representative	

Appendix B: Statement of Commitment

Company XYZ commits to the conditions of tender as specified in tender **“Supply of Network Security Devices for MCST”**

Pricing Conditions

Pricing in this response is valid for 3 months.

Signature

Position

Appendix C: Price Schedule

Supplier Name: XYZ Company

Reference:

Delivery Lead Time: 2 Weeks

Contact Name: Mr. J. Doe	Tel: 22 32 1234
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Items required

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
1				
2				
3				
4				

Signature

Position

Appendix D: Site Visit Certificate

SITE VISIT CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that we

_____ (Tenderer)

of

_____ (address)

as represented by the person(s) named below visited the MCST site for which the replacement of Servers and Network devices is required on _____.

We acknowledge that the purpose of the site visits was to acquaint ourselves with the Site of the works and / or matters incidental to doing the work specified in the tender documents in order for us to take account of everything necessary when compiling our tender.

Particulars of person(s) visiting the sites:

Name

Signature

Capacity

Name

Signature

Capacity

A site visit by the above persons is confirmed by the MCST representative as follows:

Name

Signature

Capacity

Date & time

MCST STAMP

